

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A system for providing an interactive collaborative display in an educational environment, the system comprising
a processing unit;
a data storage unit, operable for storing a plurality of instructions for the processing unit; and
a large format collaboration display,
wherein the large format collaboration display may display a plurality of documents and accept simultaneous input from a plurality of users in at least one of the plurality of documents.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein the large format collaborative display comprises a resistive touch screen overlay for receiving input signals from the plurality of users.
3. The system of claim 1, wherein the large format collaboration display is a high definition plasma display.
4. The system of claim 1, wherein the large format collaboration display is selected from a list consisting essentially of a liquid crystal display (LCD) and a cathode ray tube (CRT) display.
5. The system of claim 3, wherein the large format collaboration display comprises:
a resizable display area;
a resizable real-time communications area for monitoring communications with other students at remote locations;
a resizable collaboration area for sharing documents with other users.

6. The system of claim 3, further comprising a plurality of input devices for simultaneous inputting signals from a plurality of users, wherein each input device comprises an identifying indicia for identifying the user associated with the particular input device.

7. The system of claim 1, further comprising a communications unit, operable for transmitting and receiving content over a distributed network.

8. The system of claim further comprising a plurality of educational application programs supporting educational standards selected from the list consisting essentially of K-12 Extensible Markup Language (XML) schema and the Instructional Management Systems (IMS) schema.

9. A method for sharing information between a plurality of users through a large format collaborative display, the method comprising:
 registering at least one user;
 receiving at least one input signal from the registered user;
 displaying at least one document in the large format collaborative display in response to an input signal from the registered user;
 associating at least one input device with each registered user;
 receiving an input signal through at least one input device in contact with a resistive touch screen overlay placed on the large format collaborative display;
 storing the input signal in the document and associating the stored input signals with the registered user; and
 sharing the stored document with at least one other user.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising:
 displaying a video image of the user in at least a portion of the large format collaborative display.

11. The method of claim 9, further comprising displaying the document in real time at another large format collaborative display at a remote location over a distributed network.

12. The method of claim 10, further comprising displaying the video image of the registered user in at least a portion of the large format collaborative displays located at the remote sites in real-time.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein the large format collaboration display comprises:

a resizable display area;

a resizable real-time communications area for monitoring communications with other students at remote locations;

a resizable collaboration area for sharing documents with other users.

14. The method of claim 9, wherein the large format collaborative display is a high definition plasma display.

15. The method of claim 9, wherein the large format collaborative display is selected from a list consisting essentially of a liquid crystal display (LCD) and a cathode ray tube (CRT) display.